

The following measures may be voted on by the House on Tuesday, July 25:

**H.R. 3676 — SANTA ROSA AND SAN JACINTO MOUNTAINS NATIONAL  
MONUMENT ACT**

**Cost to the Taxpayer:** CBO estimates the bill would cost taxpayers about \$500,000 annually, subject to appropriation for the administration of the national monument and to cover the operating expenses of the new advisory committee. The bill also authorizes the federal acquisition of new land to be funded from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

**Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations:** Yes, the bill creates a new national monument composed of 272,000 acres in California. Of the 272,000 acres only 152,000 are owned by the federal government. The remainder of the land being included in the national monument belong either to private individuals, Indian tribes or the State. The bill authorizes the acquisition of non-federal land that lies within the national monument. The bill also establishes an advisory Committee for the establishment of a management plan for the national monument.

**Constitutional Authority:** The Committee cites Article I, Section 8 (but fails to cite a specific authority) and Article IV, Section 3 (make rules concerning property owned by the United States).

**H.R. 4846 — NATIONAL RECORDING PRESERVATION ACT OF 2000**

**Cost to Taxpayer:** The bill authorizes \$250,000 a year for seven years for the newly established National Recording Registry. The bill also authorizes appropriations to a newly created non-government corporation an amount equal to what the corporation receives in private contributions (whether in currency, services, or property).

**Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations:** Yes, the bill creates the following new programs:

- C National Recording Registry for the preservation of recordings within the Library of Congress;
- C National Recording Preservation Program to coordinate preservation efforts, promote such efforts to the general public, increase the accessibility of recordings, and undertake studies and investigations of preservation activities;
- C National Recording Preservation Board to nominate recordings for the National Recording Registry and study and report on recording preservation and restoration; and
- C The National Recording Preservation Foundation, a federally chartered corporation to further the goals of the National Recording Registry and the National Recording Preservation Program.

**Constitutional Authority:** None cited.

## **H.R. 1651 — FISHERMAN’S PROTECTIVE ACT AMENDMENTS**

**Cost to Taxpayer:** CBO estimates that the bill would cost taxpayers \$136 million over the 2000-2005 period, subject to appropriations.

**Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations:** Yes, the bill does the following:

- C Extends through 2003, the Fisherman’s Guaranty Fund which pays owners of U.S. fishing vessels for certain losses if their vessels are seized by a foreign nation. Owners pay fees to cover the costs of these payments and administering the program. The fund has a current balance of \$2.8 million, no owners have applied to participate in the program in recent years, and the fund has only paid one claim since 1987.
- C Creates a six-member Yukon River Salmon Panel to advise the Secretary of State regarding agreements with Canada relating to salmon.
- C Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to carry out projects to restore salmon stocks.
- C Authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to purchase, lease, or charter six fishery survey vessels.
- C Imposes a mandate on the private sector by forbidding vessel operators holding federal boat permits in the harpoon and general categories from using aircraft to locate, catch, retain or possess Atlantic bluefin tuna. (Less than 1% of operators use such aircrafts, however they have a higher yield than other operators.)

**Constitutional Authority:** None cited..

## **H.R. 2833 — YUMA CROSSING NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA**

**Cost to the Taxpayer:** CBO estimates that enactment of the bill will cost \$10 million over the next 10 to 15 years.

**Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations:** Yes, the bill creates a new National Heritage Area to be comprised of 21 acres around the Yuma crossing in Colorado. The bill also delegates management of the area to a National Heritage Area Board of Directors with whom the Secretary of the Interior shall enter into a compact regarding the management of the area. Among other duties, the management entity will encourage local government to adopt appropriate land use policies, restore historic buildings, make grants, develop recreational resources and establish exhibits.

**Constitutional Authority:** The Committee cites Article I, Section 8, but fails to provide a specific citation of authority.

## **H.R. 4210 — PREPAREDNESS AGAINST TERRORISM ACT OF 2000**

**Cost to the Taxpayer:** CBO estimates that enactment of the bill would cost taxpayers \$47 million over the 2001-2005 period, subject to appropriations.

**Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations:** Yes, the bill creates a new Office of Terrorism Preparedness within the Executive Office of the President. The Office would be responsible for, among other things:

- C Overseeing and coordinating all federal programs which assist state and local government prepare for terrorist attacks;
- C Establish a comprehensive strategy for assisting state and local governments;
- C Provide grants to help state and local governments participate in federal programs; and
- C Coordinate the President's budget request for antiterrorism.

**Constitutional Authority:** The Committee cites Article I, Section 8, but fails to provide a specific citation of authority.

## **H.R. 2919 — NATIONAL UNDERGROUND RAILROAD FREEDOM CENTER ACT**

**Cost to the Taxpayer:** The bill authorizes \$16 million through 2003 to finance 20% of the costs of constructing the facility and developing programs and exhibits for the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. The bill also authorizes \$2.5 million annually for grants to preserve and restore historic structures associated with the Underground Railroad.

**Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations:** Yes. The bill authorizes federal assistance for the development of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center and amends the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Act of 1998 to authorize a new grant program for the preservation of historic sites.

**Constitutional Authority:** The Committee cites Article I, Section 8, but fails to provide a specific citation of authority.

## **S. 1910— ACQUISITION OF THE HUNT HOUSE IN WATERLOO, NEW YORK**

**Cost to the Taxpayer:** CBO estimates that it will cost the taxpayer approximately \$4.2 million over the next 3 to 5 years to acquire and restore Hunt House. An additional \$200,000 annually would be required each year to manage the property, subject to appropriations.

**Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations:** Yes, under the bill the federal government would acquire additional property and be responsible for its maintenance.

**Constitutional Authority:** None cited.

## **HCONRES 351--RECOGNIZING HEROES PLAZA IN PUEBLO, COLORADO FOR MEDAL OF HONOR MEMORIAL**

**Cost to Taxpayer:** None. Sense of the House.

**Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations:** No.

**Constitutional Authority:** No Committee report was filed and no authority is cited in the resolution.

**Summary:** The City of Pueblo, Colorado will be the site for the September 2000 reunion of living recipients of the Medal of Honor (fewer than 155 of the approximately 3,500 are alive), and a Medal of Honor memorial, to be known as 'Heroes Plaza', will be dedicated. The resolution recognizes Heroes Plaza as honoring the Medal of Honor recipients.

## **H. RES. 549--NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVES ON THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF DESERT SHIELD AND STORM**

**Cost to Taxpayer:** None. Sense of the House.

**Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations:** No.

**Constitutional Authority:** No Committee report was filed and no authority is cited in the resolution.

**Summary:** August 27, 2000, is the 10th anniversary of the initial activation of National Guard and Reserve personnel for Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm where over 267,000 members of the National Guard and Reserve were ordered to active duty, 57 members of the National Guard and Reserve lost their lives the majority from a missile attack on the Army barracks at Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. The House honors their service and sacrifice, recognizes their growing importance to our security, and supports ensuring the readiness of the National Guard and Reserve.

## **HR 3817--REDESIGNATE BIG SOUTH TRAIL AS JARYD ATADERO LEGACY TRAIL**

**Cost to Taxpayer:** While a CBO cost estimate is not available, it is assumed that the cost to the federal government would be the cost of the sign.

**Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations:** Yes. The bill requires the Secretary of Agriculture to increase awareness of child safety in outdoor recreation settings by posting a sign at this location to describe safe outdoor recreation with children and referring to the tragic loss of Jaryd Atadero.

**Constitutional Authority:** No Committee report was filed and no authority is cited in the resolution.

**Summary:** 3-year old Jaryd Atadero, from Littleton, Colorado, was last seen the morning of October 2, 1999, 1 ½ miles from the trailhead of the Big South Trail in the Comanche Peak Wilderness Area of Roosevelt National Forest. Congress dedicates the Big South Trail to him and his legacy of promoting safe outdoor recreation for children.

## **H.RES. 544--CONGRATULATING MEXICO ON ITS ELECTION**

**Cost to Taxpayer:** None. Sense of the House.

**Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations:** No.

**Constitutional Authority:** No Committee report was filed and no authority is cited in the resolution.

**Summary:** The resolution congratulates the people and Government of the United Mexican States for the successful completion of the democratic multiparty elections for president and the legislature; commends the citizens and political parties of Mexico for their participation in the democratic process; congratulates President-elect Vicente Fox for his election victory and his strong commitment to democracy and a free-market oriented economy; and reaffirms the US friendship with the United Mexican States and our unequivocal commitment to encouraging democracy throughout Latin America.

## **H.R.4710-THE ILLEGAL PORNOGRAPHY PROSECUTION ACT**

**Cost to Taxpayer:** No CBO estimate is available, but the bill is a one time authorization for \$5 million in FY2001, subject to appropriation.

**Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations:** Yes, the bill allows for a specific earmark for prosecuting obscenity laws and allows for the hiring of more staff at DOJ to do this.

**Constitutional Authority:** No Committee report was filed and no authority is cited in the bill.

**Summary:** The bill authorizes \$5 million for the Department of Criminal Division, Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, for the hiring and training of staff, travel, and other necessary expenses, to prosecute obscenity cases, including those arising under chapter 71 of title 18, United States Code. This bill arose out of the Justice Department's own data showing an 80% drop in obscenity enforcement during the Clinton Administration's first six years in office and also from a Commerce Committee hearing where the Justice Department's representative was unable to name a single Internet obscenity case brought by the DOJ since 1996.

## **H.R.3380-MILITARY EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION ACT OF 2000**

**Cost to Taxpayer:** CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3380 would not result in any significant cost to the federal government. It further expects that H.R. 3380 would not significantly increase the caseload or costs of federal law enforcement agencies, the judiciary, or the prison system.

**Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations:** Yes, the bill amends current law and makes a new federal crime.

**Constitutional Authority:** The committee cites Article I, section 8, clauses 10 (define and punish felonies committed on high seas and Offences against the Law of Nations, 14 (rules and regs. For land and naval forces), 16 (disciplining militia), and 18 (all laws necessary and proper for executing Constitutional powers).

**Summary:** H.R. 3380 extends the application of Federal criminal jurisdiction to US citizens and foreign nationals, who commit criminal acts while employed by or otherwise accompanying the US Armed Forces outside the US. It also extends Federal criminal jurisdiction to crimes committed by Armed Forces

personnel, but not prosecuted by military authority before they leave the service. Because many crimes, such as sexual assault, arson, robbery, larceny, embezzlement, and fraud, currently do not have extraterritorial effect, there is a 'jurisdictional gap' that, in many cases, allows such crimes to go unpunished. Although host foreign nations have jurisdiction to prosecute such acts committed within their nation, they frequently decline to exercise jurisdiction when an American is the victim or when the crime involves only property owned by Americans. H.R. 3380 would close this gap by establishing a new Federal crime involving conduct that would constitute an offense punishable by imprisonment for more than 1 year if the conduct had been engaged in within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the US.

## **H.R. 4047--THE TWO STRIKES AND YOU'RE OUT CHILD PROTECTION ACT**

**Cost to Taxpayer:** No CBO estimate is available. It is assumed that there would be some additional costs for lifetime incarcerations.

**Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations:** Yes,

**Constitutional Authority:** No Committee report was filed and no authority is cited in the bill.

**Summary:** This legislation amends 18 U.S.C. 3559 to require that any person convicted of a Federal sex offense against a minor, who has a prior sex conviction against a minor, shall serve life in prison, unless the death penalty is imposed.

Federal sex offense means an offense relating to aggravated sexual abuse, sexual abuse, sexual abuse of a minor or ward, abusive sexual contact, sexual abuse resulting in death, selling or buying of children, transportation of minors, and the transportation of, or the engagement in a sexual act with, an individual who has not attained 16 years of age.

## **H.R. 4697 — INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION AND GOOD GOVERNANCE ACT**

**Cost to the Taxpayer:** While the bill would expand current programs to include programs to promote good governance in other countries, the bill does not authorize any specific funds for this purpose, rather such activities would be eligible for funding under other broader authorizations. CBO estimates that spending on good governance programs would continue at approximately the current rate of \$16 million a year.

**Does the Bill Create New Government Programs or Regulations:** Yes, the bill authorizes the establishment of programs that "combat corruption, improve transparency and accountability, and promote other forms of good governance" in certain foreign countries. Projects under this program may include technical assistance, drafting of statutory and administrative codes, support for independent media, and the financing of programs and operating costs of nongovernmental organizations that carry out such projects, and the assistance for travel for individuals involved in such activities.

The bill also requires an annual report to Congress on the projects and activities carried out under the authorizations of the bill.

**Constitutional Authority:** A Committee Report and therefore a citation of Constitutional authority is unavailable.

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*The views expressed in this Legislative Bulletin do not necessarily reflect the views of all Members of the Conservative Action Team.*

The Conservative Action Team is a Congressional Member Organization of almost 60 House Members and is chaired by Representative John Shadegg (R-AZ).